

Birth to Boosters

A caregiver's guide to child passenger restraints



Hawaii Child Passenger Restraint Law & Penalty

Just The Facts!



Hawaii's Child Passenger Restraint Law requires children under 4 years of age to ride in a child safety seat. Children 4 through 7 years old must ride in a child passenger restraint or booster seat.

Violators are required to appear in court. If convicted, violators are required to attend a 4-hour class and may be assessed a penalty of \$100-\$500 depending on the number of offenses.

A Hawaii state tax credit of \$25 per year applies to the purchase of a child passenger restraint.

The most compelling reason for using a child passenger restraint is the safety of your child.



Did you know . . .

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death among children over one year of age.

The good news . . .

By using properly installed child passenger restraints, many deaths and injuries can be prevented.

Research shows . . .

Child passenger restraints can reduce deaths by as much as 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers.

Nationally four out of five child passenger restraints are used incorrectly. To ensure the child restraint is installed correctly, caregivers should do the following:

1. Always read the installation instructions that accompany the child passenger restraint and your vehicle.
2. Select the child passenger restraint that best fits your child and your vehicle.
3. The center of the back seat is the safest location in the vehicle.
4. Never install a rear-facing child passenger restraint in front of an active front-passenger airbag.
5. Children should face the rear until they reach the height or weight limits of a rear-facing child passenger restraint. Rear-facing restraints provide the best protection for a child's neck and spinal cord.
6. Always check for a tight installation each time and make sure your child's harness is snug.

Rear-Facing



- Recline seat so that head rests comfortably and level indicator is correct.
- Harness straps routed through slots that are at or below child's shoulders.
- Harness clip at armpit level.

Important Tips

- Never put a rear-facing seat in the front seat with an active airbag.
- Keep harness straps snug (should not be able to pinch fabric of the harness).
- Thread vehicle belt or LATCH anchor strap through rear-facing belt path (check labels on car seat).
- Keep rear facing as long as possible, until child meets the height or weight maximum of the seat.



Forward-Facing With Harness



- Harness straps routed through forward-facing slots at or above child's shoulders.
- Keep harness straps snug (should not be able to pinch fabric of the harness).
- Harness clip at armpit level.

Important Tips

- Recline stand should be in the upright position.
- Thread vehicle belt or LATCH anchor strap through forward-facing belt path (check labels on car seat).



Booster



- Always use the shoulder and lap belt.
- Shoulder belt should be across chest and lap belt should be low across the hips.

Important Tips

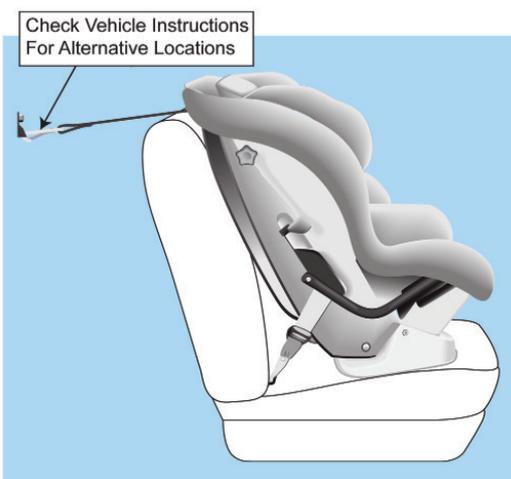
- To protect child's head and neck, high-back booster must be used if vehicle does not have a head restraint where child is seated.
- Never place the seat belt under the arm or behind the back.



Seat Installation

To install your car seat:

- 1). **READ** vehicle and car seat instructions.
- 2). **IDENTIFY** how vehicle seat belts or LATCH are to be used when installing a car seat (read child restraint section of vehicle instructions).
- 3). **ROUTE** vehicle seat belt or LATCH anchors through correct belt path of car seat and buckle it.
- 4). **COMPRESS** vehicle seat while tightening seat belt or LATCH.
- 5). **CHECK** car seat installation. There should be no more than 1 inch of side-to-side or forward movement at the seat belt path.
- 6). **ATTACH** top tether for forward-facing seat.



Latch

Anchors and tethers allow you to securely attach your car seat in your car without using the vehicle belt.

- 1). Fasten car seat's lower attachments to vehicle's lower anchors and tethers. Tighten and secure according to vehicle and car seat instructions.
- 2). Attach car seat's top tether to vehicle's top anchor and pull to tighten. Note: Tethers are not used on most rear-facing car seats.

Tether

Car seats' top tether can be used for most forward-facing seats. Read vehicle and car seat instructions for more information.

- 1). Attach tether to top anchor and pull to tighten.

Additional Resources

American Academy of Pediatrics
www.aap.org

Hawaii Department of Transportation Public Affairs
www.hawaii.gov/dot/highways/public-affairs

Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition
www.kipchawaii.org

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
www.nhtsa.dot.gov

Partners for Child Passenger Safety
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
www.chop.edu/carseat

Safe Kids Worldwide
www.safekids.org

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.
www.carseat.org or (310) 222-6860

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
www.cpsc.gov

